

## **BRIEF INTRODUCTION**

*Many of the words you are about to read are from the Bible. There will be individual verses, as well as larger passages. Twice you will say the Lord's Prayer (each time with a different implicit theme because of the prayer's surroundings). And there will be many other biblical phrases and paraphrases, especially from the Psalms.*

*All the other words in Morning/Evening Prayer\* are treasures either from the ancient undivided church or from the Reformation. From the first centuries of the church come the **Apostles' Creed**, the **Gloria Patri**, the songs of praise called the **Tē Deum** and **Benedicite**, and some very old Greek and Latin prayers. From the Reformation, and especially from **Archbishop Thomas Cranmer**, come other parts of the service – the exhortation, confession, and absolution – as well as skillful English translations of the ancient sources.*

*At first all this may seem daunting. In **C.S. Lewis's** analogy, reading Morning/Evening Prayer is like learning how to dance. At first you will be counting steps, but then it will become familiar, and before you know it, you are dancing.*

# The Order for Evening Prayer daily throughout the year

## Sentences of the Scriptures

When the wicked man turneth away from his wickedness that he hath committed, and doeth that which is lawful and right, he shall save his soul alive. *Ezekiel 18.27*

I acknowledge my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. *Psalm 51.3*

Hide thy face from my sins, and blot out all mine iniquities. *Psalm 51.9*

The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit : a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise. *Psalm 51.17*

Rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the Lord your God: for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth him of the evil. *Joel 2.13*

To the Lord our God belong mercies and forgivenesses, though we have rebelled against him: neither have we obeyed the voice of the Lord our God, to walk in his laws which he set before us. *Daniel 9.9-10*

O Lord, correct me, but with judgement; not in thine anger, lest thou bring me to nothing. *Jeremiah 10.24; Psalm 6.1*

Repent ye; for the Kingdom of heaven is at hand. *St. Matthew 3.2*

I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee, and am no more worthy to be called thy son. *St. Luke 15.18-19*

Enter not into judgement with thy servant, O Lord; for in thy sight shall no man living be justified. *Psalm 143.2*

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us: but if we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. *1 St. John 1.8-9*

### **The Exhortation**

Dearly beloved (brethren), the Scripture moveth us in sundry places to acknowledge and confess our manifold sins and wickedness; and that we should not dissemble nor cloke them before the face of Almighty God our heavenly Father; but confess them with an humble, lowly, penitent, and obedient heart; to the end that we may obtain forgiveness of the same, by his infinite goodness and mercy.

And although we ought at all times humbly to acknowledge our sins before God; yet ought we most chiefly so to do, when we assemble and meet together: to render thanks for the great benefits that we have received at his hands, to set forth his most worthy praise, to hear his most holy Word, and to ask those things which are requisite and necessary, as well for the body as the soul. Wherefore I pray and beseech you, as many as are here present, to accompany me with a pure heart and humble voice unto the throne of the heavenly grace, saying with me:

Please join in when the words are printed in **bold type**

*Please sit or kneel*

## **The General Confession**

**Almighty and most merciful Father, We have erred, and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep, We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts, We have offended against thy holy laws, We have left undone those things which we ought to have done, And we have done those things which we ought not to have done, And there is no health in us: But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us miserable offenders; Spare thou them, O God, which confess their faults, Restore thou them that are penitent, According to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesu our Lord: And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, That we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, To the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.**

*The Priest alone, standing:*

Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who desireth not the death of a sinner, but rather that he may turn from his wickedness, and live; and hath given power, and commandment, to his Ministers, to declare and pronounce to his people, being penitent, the Absolution and Remission of their sins: He pardoneth and absolveth all them that truly repent, and unfeignedly believe his holy Gospel. Wherefore let us beseech him to grant us true

repentance, and his Holy Spirit, that those things may please him, which we do at this present; and that the rest of our life hereafter may be pure, and holy; so that at the last we may come to his eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

*If no priest be present the person saying the Service shall say*

Grant, we beseech thee, merciful Lord, to thy faithful people pardon and peace; that they may be cleansed from all their sins, and serve thee with a quiet mind; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**The Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father, which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, For ever and ever. Amen.**

**Responses**

O Lord, open thou our lips.

**And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.**

O God, make speed to save us.

**O Lord, make haste to help us.**

*Please stand*

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
Answer. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen.*

Praise ye the Lord.  
The Lord's Name be praised.

*The Appointed Psalmody is said or sung.*

*Each psalm or group of psalms may end with*

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world  
without end. Amen.*

*Please sit*

*The First Lesson                      Old Testament*

*The reader shall say,*

The Lesson is taken from ...the book of.....chapter....starting  
at verse....

*At the end the reader shall say;*

Here endeth the First Lesson.

*Please Stand*

**The Magnificat. Luke 1.46**

1. My soul doth magnify the Lord :  
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.
2. For he hath regarded :  
the lowliness of his hand-maiden.
3. For behold, from henceforth :

all generations shall call me blessed.

4. For he that is mighty hath magnified me :  
and holy is his Name.

5. And his mercy is on them that fear him :  
throughout all generations.

6. He hath shewed strength with his arm :  
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their  
hearts.

7. He hath put down the mighty from their seat :  
and hath exalted the humble and meek.

8. He hath filled the hungry with good things :  
and the rich he hath sent empty away.

9. He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant  
Israel :  
as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his  
seed, for ever.

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son : and to the Holy  
Ghost;*

*As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be : world  
without end. Amen.*

*Please be seated*

**The Second Lesson**

**New Testament**

*The reader shall say,*

The Lesson is taken from ...the book of.....chapter....starting at verse....

*At the end the reader shall say,*

Here endeth the Second Lesson.

*Please stand*

**Nunc Dimittis. Luke 2.29**

1. Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace :  
according to thy word.
2. For mine eyes have seen :  
thy salvation;
3. Which thou hast prepared :  
before the face of all people;
4. To be a light to lighten the Gentiles :  
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son :  
and to the Holy Ghost;*

*As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be :  
world without end. Amen.*

**The Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God the Father  
Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth: And  
in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord, Who was



conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary,  
Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and  
buried: He descended into hell; The third day he rose  
again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, And  
sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;  
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the  
dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; The holy Catholic Church;  
The Communion of Saints; The Forgiveness of sins;  
The Resurrection of the body, And the Life everlasting.  
Amen

*Please sit or kneel.*

### **Prayers**

The Lord be with you.  
And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

### **The Lord's Prayer**

Our Father, which art in heaven,  
Hallowed be thy Name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will  
be done, in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our  
daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses, As we  
forgive them that trespass against us; And lead us not  
into temptation, But deliver us from evil. Amen.

O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.

**And grant us thy salvation.**

O Lord, save the King.

**And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.**

Endue thy Ministers with righteousness.

**And make thy chosen people joyful.**

O Lord, save thy people.

**And bless thine inheritance.**

Give peace in our time, O Lord.

**Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.**

O God, make clean our hearts within us.

**And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.**

**Three Collects:**

The Collect of the Day

The Second Collect at Evening Prayer

O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed: Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give; that both our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee we being defended from the fear of our enemies may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen.**

The Third Collect, for Aid against all Perils

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this

night; for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

{The order for the end of the service may include hymns, a sermon, further prayers}

### **Further Prayers**

#### **A Collect for the King**

Almighty and everlasting God, we are taught by thy holy Word, that the hearts of kings are in thy governance, and that thou dost dispose and turn them as it seemeth best to thy godly wisdom: we humbly beseech thee so to dispose and govern the heart of Charles thy Servant, our King and Governor, that in all his thoughts, words, and works, he may ever seek thy honour and glory, and study to preserve thy people committed to his charge, in wealth, peace and godliness: grant this, O merciful Father, for thy dear Son's sake, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

#### **A Prayer for all those in Civil Authority**

Almighty Father, whose kingdom is everlasting: We beseech thee of thy mercy to direct and prosper the counsels of those who bear authority in this land, [especially....] that in humility and honesty they may faithfully serve the people committed to their charge. And grant, we pray thee, that religion and piety, peace and unity, truth and justice, may be established among us for all generations, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

[ from The 1662 BCP, International Edition]

### **A Prayer for the Clergy and People.**

Almighty and everlasting God, who alone workest great marvels: Send down upon our Bishops, and Clergy, and all Congregations committed to their charge, the healthful Spirit of thy grace; and that they may truly please thee, pour upon them the continual dew of thy blessing. Grant this, O Lord, for the honour of our Advocate and Mediator, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

### **A Prayer of Saint Chrysostom.**

Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications unto thee; and dost promise that when two or three are gathered together in thy Name thou wilt grant their requests: Fulfil now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants, as may be most expedient for them; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

### **The Grace**

#### 2 Corinthians 13.14

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**

*Here endeth the Order of Evening Prayer throughout the Year.*